

REMARKS

In a final Office Action, mailed March 28, 2008, the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("Office") objected to Claims 25-28 because of informalities. Claims 1-23, 25-29, 32-57, and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0069156 ("Adam et al."), filed August 31, 2001, which claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 60/229,900, filed September 1, 2000.

Although applicants do not entirely agree with the Office, for the sake of advancing the prosecution of the above-identified patent application, Claims 1-23, 25-29, 32-57, and 68 have been canceled without disclaimer or prejudice. New Claims 69-88 are added. Applicants are unable to find, and the Office has failed to show, where the applied and cited references teach or suggest the claimed subject matter. For example, applicants are unable to find where Adam et al. teaches or suggests "a set of seller computing devices configured to communicate with a seller interface application, the set of seller computing devices specifying types of wood products, quantities of available inventory of wood products, and a minimum number of wood products that must be purchased to complete a transaction," as recited by Claim 1, among many other features.

As another example, applicants are unable to find "receiving a selection of a seller of wood products from a number of advertisements displayed on a buyer computing device," as recited by Claims 76 and 83, albeit in different manners. As a third example, the Office has failed to show where the cited and applied references teach or suggest "including businesses that may modify the transaction by executing a three-tiered process, a first tier being business classifications, a second tier being geographic regions, and a third tier being identities of businesses," as recited by Claims 79 and 86, albeit in different manners. As a fourth example, applicants are unable to find "executing a correlation application in a transaction database to

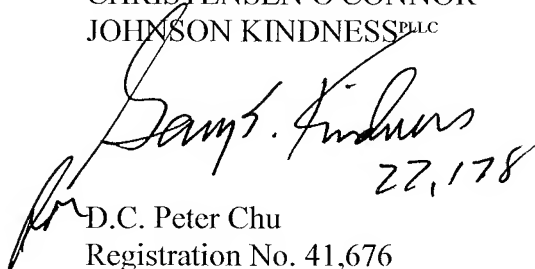
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correlate quantity, product identifiers, or both sent by a seller computing device with quantity, product identifiers, or both sent by the buyer computing device to facilitate a transaction of wood products between a buyer and a seller," as recited by Claims 76 and 83, albeit in different manners.

Because the Office has failed to state a *prima facie* case of anticipation, the rejections should be withdrawn. Independent Claims 69, 76, and 83 are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied references. Claims 70-75, 77-82, and 84-88 are allowable because they depend from allowable independent claims and because of the additional limitations added by those claims. Consequently, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 69-88 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.C. Peter Chu", is written over the printed name. To the right of the signature, the number "22,178" is handwritten.

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